

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1443

By Dunn

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative J. Christopher Clem on his meritorious service as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should recognize those fellow legislators who have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative J. Christopher Clem is one such distinguished public servant whose illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 2006 Session of the 104th General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Representative Clem has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the 27th House District, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the 27th House District evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Chris Clem by electing him as their representative to the Tennessee House of Representatives, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, during his three terms in the House of Representatives, he has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, born on November 8, 1968, Chris Clem is the son of Joe and Carol Clem; he graduated with honors from the University of Tennessee, earned a Doctorate of

Jurisprudence from the University of Tennessee Law School, and is a certified public accountant and attorney; and

WHEREAS, Representative Chris Clem is a dynamic and active participant in the legislative process and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues for his outstanding contributions and service during the 102nd – 104th General Assemblies; he has astutely served as a member of the House Agriculture Committee, the House Consumer and Employee Affairs Committee, and the House Employee Affairs Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, an outspoken voice for conservative principles and traditional family values, Representative Clem has supported and sponsored legislation concerning pro-life and traditional marriage issues, including a ban on the adoption of children in state custody by homosexuals; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, Chris Clem has given his time and energies to many community, civic, and charitable organizations, including the Chattanooga Bar Association and the Christian Legal Society; and

WHEREAS, for his unparalleled devotion to public service and his constituents, Representative Clem has received numerous honors and accolades, a testament to the honesty, integrity, and overall exemplary character and devotion with which he has performed his duties as a servant of the people; and

WHEREAS, his many civic and professional accomplishments aside, Representative Chris Clem is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Liz; their marriage has been blessed with two wonderful children, Rachel Eowyn and David Alexander; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Chris Clem is an active and faithful member of Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church and has been a longtime supporter of several local ministries, including Teen Challenge and AAA Women's Services; and

WHEREAS, Representative Clem's retirement from the General Assembly will leave a void not easily filled, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of the 27th House District; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to bid farewell to our respected friend and colleague, Representative Chris Clem; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative J. Christopher Clem on his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 27th House District, and extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.